

A METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY SEARCHING
FOR FUNCTIONAL DEFECTS IN
A DESCRIPTION OF A CIRCUIT

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ABSTRACT

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A programmed computer searches for functional defects in a description of a circuit undergoing functional verification in the following manner.

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The programmed computer simulates the functional behavior of the circuit in response to a test vector, automatically restores the state of the simulation without causing the simulation to pass through a reset state, and then simulates the functional behavior of the circuit in response to another test vector. A predetermined rule can be used to identify test vectors to be simulated, and the predetermined rule can depend upon a measure of functional verification, including the number

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